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**(54) RADIO METER-READING SYSTEM**

turning off a power source in the slave unit unless the station is one's own station.

**(57) Abstract**

**PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED:** To save the battery consumption in a radio slave unit by shortening an unnecessary reception time in another slave unit being adjacent to a slave unit to be meter-read in an apartment house.

**SOLUTION:** A start signal 21 from a master unit 4A is constituted by the fixed times repetition of a rough identifying code 20 consisting of a head part 18 and a succeeding eight-bit signal 19 for communications. A 48-bit normal identifying code comes after the start signal. The bit configuration of the head part 18 is adopted as '01111110'. The eight bit signal 19 is provided with the eight bits where the respective numbers of decimal two digits in the ID of the slave unit are converted into binary codes. In the case of 22nd slave unit, for example, '01000100' is adopted. Thus, it is identified whether a station is one's own station or not, at first, by the rough identifying code 20 in the start signal 21, and, then, power is saved by

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